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Disclaimer

I do not own Warrior Cats! The Erin Hunters do! Do not give me complete credit!

Allegiance

Thunderclan
Leader
Lionstar- golden tabby tom with amber eyes
(Apprentice Dapplepaw)
Deputy
Amberfur- pale ginger she-cat
Medicine Cat
Bramblepelt- Gray tom with spiky fur that pokes out
(Apprentice Dovepaw)

Warriors
Jaggedtooth- gray tabby tom with blue eyes
Glidestep- Brown tabby tom with a lame foot
Dustwing- Brown she-cat with amber eyes
(Apprentice Harepaw)
Deermist- tan she-cat with green eyes
Mossfire- Brown tom with blue eyes
Patchpelt- black tom with white, ginger, and brown patches
(Apprentice Runningpaw)
Littlewhisker- small white she-cat with green eyes
Honeyfur- golden she-cat with amber eyes
(Apprentice Dewpaw)
Ravenclaw- black tom
Seedleaf- golden brown she cat
Fernpelt- light colored tortoiseshell she-cat with amber eyes
Mistleaf- gray she-cat with amber eyes
Swiftbreeze- brown tabby tom with brown eyes

Apprentices
Dovepaw- pale gray she-cat with green eyes
Harepaw- dusty brown tom with amber eyes
Runningpaw- small black tom
Dewpaw- gray she-cat with blue eyes
Dapplepaw- tortoiseshell she-cat amber eyes

Queens
Dreamcloud- white she-cat with one blue eye and the other green
(Kits: Hollykit, Larkkit, Flamekit, Leafkit)
Sparrowfur- Brown tabby she-cat with white underbelly

Elders
Dovewing- pale gray she-cat with blue eyes
Cherryfall- ginger she-cat
Birchfall- light brown tabby tom
Berrynose- cream colored tom

Shadowclan
Leader
Scorchstar- dark gray tom
Deputy
Tigerheart- dark brown tabby tom
Medicine Cat
Pinefoot- black tom with blue eyes

Windclan
Leader
Hootstar- dark gray tom
Deputy
Breezetail- light gray tom with green eyes
Medicine Cat
Hawkflight- Brown she-cat

Riverclan
Leader
Mintstar- light gray tabby she-cat
Deputy
Pikefur- white tom with amber eyes
Medicine Cat
Waterwing- Speckled gray she-cat with blue eyes

Animals outside the Clans
Jack- white tom with golden patches and amber eyes
Sugar - large white dog with thick fur and hazel eyes

Prologue

Bramblestar padded across the beautiful, green field. He enjoyed Starclan, for he could hunt as he wished. And as he walked across the field he jumped up and battered at the butterflies that flew overhead. He thought *This is very enjoyable, but I left my clan mates too soon.* He jerked around as he heard the branches above rattle, the green leaves bright in the sun, and spotted a gray squirrel who had found itself an acorn. He trotted over and sunk his claws in the soft, gray bark. Preparing to climb, he lowered down and launched using his hindquarters, leaping into the cool air. He landed just a mouse-length from the warm gray body, and it squealed in terror. It scampered from branch to branch, and so did Bramblestar. Finally, he decided to kill it, and with one huge leap he landed on it, killing the squirrel with a quick bite to the neck. The squirrel was hanging from his jaws when someone called out, "Bramblestar..... You up there? Come down I have important news!" He let out a grunt of annoyance and slithered down the tree. As he landed he looked up to see his former deputy and mate, Squirrelflight. She was beautiful with her ginger fur dappled by the shadow of the branches. She went over and nudged Bramblestar, " The important news I had wanted to tell you was that Hollyleaf has come back from visiting Fallen Leaves. She says that Fallen Leaves send his wishes to the Clans, but also I wanted to see if you would like to hunt." She pointed with her slender tail at the squirrel. Bramblestar remarked, " Hollyleaf really does love him doesn't she? Oh, well she seems happy. Hey, look up in that tree there's a jay." Squirrelflight got into a crouch and leaped at the jay now pecking on the ground. It flew off and she chased it, meanwhile, Bramblestar went to lap at the puddle behind him. It was swirling scarlet and it showed two silhouettes of cats fighting. Scared, he slapped the water with his paw and the water on his paw turned to blood, yet the puddle was back to normal. He cleaned his brown, bloody paw off and went off to find Squirrelflight. When he found her he quoted, " Tooth will meet claw and then there will be blood." Squirrelflight once happy eyes now clouded with worry. She questioned, "An omen? When do I tell? Who do I tell?." Brambleclaw advised, " It is an omen. And

you will know who when the time comes." And with that he left.

Chapter 1 (Birdkit)

"Momma can Eaglekit and I go over to the apprentices den? Harepaw said he teach us some cool battle moves!" Sparrowfur nodded her understanding. The brown and black kit squealed with joy and trotted over to her brother who was playfully attacking a ladybug, " Eaglekit we can go see Harepaw! I've been working on my stalking see." Birdkit crouched low to the ground as she lightly placed each paw with each step, " See! I'm really good!" She exclaimed. Eaglekit didn't look impressed and he remarked gruffly, " That's easy, but can you block an attack!" He jumped and leaped at the small brown she-kit. She squealed with shock. Her brother toppled over his sister, hind legs flailing around. Birdkit mewed, " Okay. You win! Let's go see Harepaw." As she said that Flamekit walked over with a smug look on his ginger face," Oh, are the two young kits playing a little game! You don't know the first thing about fighting!" He remarked. Birdkit retorted back, " You wouldn't either. Your still a kit! You think your so grand because you get to become an apprentice tomorrow, but listen, today you are still Flame*kit*. Your name hasn't changed yet!" Eaglekit gave a glare at Flamekit and added, " Oh excuse me Flame*paw* I must've missed you ceremony!" Flamekit, irritated padded of to the fresh kill pile and grabbed a finch. His ginger body reflecting all light. Birdkit thought to herself *I will feel bad for whoever gets him as a mate!* She decided that she'd rather not see Harepaw and get some fresh kill instead. When she padded over she examined the pile and found the small body of a mouse. She gave hungry bites and when she finished the mouse she went into the nursery. Birdkit found her brother curled up next to him and their mothers warm body; to tired to return greetings from Eaglekit she nodded and fell asleep.

Chapter 2 (Eaglekit)

Eaglekit woke up to find the sunlight shining through the leaves at the top of the den. He yawned and stretched his tiny legs. He glanced over at Birdkit who was still dreaming. He crawled over his mother's warm, fluffy tail and prodded her with his small brown paw. She mumbled, and he poked again. This time she looked up and blinked the sleep from her crystal blue eyes, "Hey wanna go play we have the whole nursery now that it's just us two!" The others had left about half a moon ago. Birdkit nodded and raced for the entrance, Eaglekit right behind her. He skidded to a halt when Amberfur, the deputy, was crossing over to the fresh kill pile. She looked down, "What are you two up to? Hopefully not any trouble." Eaglekit responded, " No, we're going to go play. Why do you ask?" Amberfur looked amused, "I was hoping you could help me with something, but I suppose you to are busy." She ended with a sigh. Birdkit glanced at her brother, "Um..... we aren't busy. We would love to help!" Amberfur nodded and pointed with her tail, "See the apprentice den over there. All of the apprentices are out training and we have no one to change the bedding, and I thought in a moon you'll be apprentices so why not start a little early! See, Larkpaw, Flamepaw, Hollypaw, Leafkit, Runningpaw, Dewpaw, and Harepaw will all be happy that you cleaned the bedding!" Eaglekit was bursting with pride. *I'm an apprentice and I haven't even had a ceremony yet!*

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When the kits were through cleaning out the moss Eaglekit decided he would go get his lunch, so he padded over to the pile and grabbed him a small mouse. When he grabbed it it caused a landslide of prey. Scared, Eaglekit ran but the prey was faster, for he looked up and al he could see was rabbit above him.
Finally, after what seemed like moons someone came and pulled of a few pieces off and looked up to see his sister. Birdkit exclaimed, "Breaking the warrior code are we now?" Amusement lighting up her eyes. Then, Sparrowfur walked up and grabbed Eaglekit who was still stuck in the pile. She didn't seem to realize he wasn't prey!

Birdkit was about to say something when Eaglekit hushed her with a glare, and their mother sat down to eat.

Chapter 3 (Sparrowfur)

Sparrowfur padded over to the fresh-kill pile. *The fresh-kill pile seems out of order today. Usually it's a nice neat pile! Oh well, I'm going to grab that juicy mouse.* She walked over, for her long legs were tired of sitting all day. She grabbed the mouse and sat down by her daughter and Bramblepelt, who seemed occupied with a blackbird at the moment. Her mouse was very large she noted. Getting prepared for a bite she glanced down, that wasn't a mouse it was her kit. She glared down at her son, "WHAT IN THE NAME OF STARCLAN I..... Eaglekit why were you playing with prey?! That is *breaking* the warrior code! That's it your not allowed out of the *nest* for three sunrises. You can only get prey! Do. You. Under-stand?" Eaglekit was about to tell the truth of what happened when Birdkit ran up almost tripping over her paws, "Mom, it wasn't his fault. He went to grab a mouse and the pile tumbled over, and you just happened to pick him up. That's all." Sparrowfur looked confused and looked over at her son, "Is this true?" He nodded grimly, besides, she should go easy on them they were still kits after all. Anyways, they would be leaving the nest soon, "Okay, I believe you, but don't get in anymore trouble. Now go play!" She sighed. *They'll be apprentices soon and they should enjoy kit hood.* Sparrowfur looked up at the sky. She could almost see Silverpelt! She made sure the kits were in the nest and she wrapped her fluffy tail around them. She licked them goodnight, and went to sleep.

Chapter 4 (Birdkit)

"Let all cats old enough to hunt, gather here beneath the High Ledge for a clan meeting." Lionstar's loud voice boomed across the camp. Cats were padding over from their meals and from the dens. Birdkit was excited she could hardly wait to figure out who her mentor would be, and she glanced at Eaglekit. She could see excitement in her brothers green eyes, "We are gathered her today for Dovepaw, Birdkit, and Eaglekit. First, Dovepaw has been given her full medicine cat name! She is now Dovewhisker!" The clan chanted her name loudly. She looked as if she would burst with joy. Then Lionstar silenced the clan with his golden tail, "We are also getting new apprentices. I have watched these to fine kit grow up and I'm glad to appoint their mentors. Eaglekit come up please." He padded up quickly. Looking around the crowd, he tried to guess his mentor, "Jaggedtooth you are brave and patient and I believe you will be a great mentor to Eagle*paw!*" He ran up to Jaggedtooth and touched noses with him. His eyes full of joy. Lionstar silenced the clan again, "Birdkit, come up please..... Mistleaf you are loyal and understanding. I believe you are ready to take on your first apprentice, Bird*paw!*" Birdpaw trotted up to Mistleaf and touched noses with her. The clan was chanting their names. Mistleaf purred, "How would you feel if I showed you the territory? We can invite Eaglepaw too!" Birdkit nodded vigorously. Mistleaf padded over to Jaggedtooth, "Would you and Eaglepaw care to join us in a patrol? We are going to explore the territory." Jaggedtooth glanced over at Eaglepaw expectantly. Eaglepaw blurted, "YES! I've always wanted to explore it! Maybe will see Windclan, so I could tear them to shreds!" Jaggedtooth chuckled at the remark. Mistleaf giggled and padded over to the entrance. *I'm going to go see the territory!* Birdpaw thought.

Chapter 5

Birdpaw yawned and blinked sleep from her eyes. She looked around the apprentice den, and it looked crowded. There were 10 apprentices. In Fact, they had to expand the den! There was Harepaw, Runningpaw, Dewpaw, Dapplepaw, Firepaw, Larkpaw, Hollypaw, Leafpaw, Eaglepaw, and herself. She didn't mind though because Harepaw, Runningpaw, Dewpaw, and Dapplepaw were all leaving very soon. Birdpaw yawned again and got up and stretched her legs. She glanced over at her brother a prodded him with her one white paw. He opened his eyes and blinked the sleep away. He yawned, "Let's go get prey." She nodded and grabbed a mouse. She glanced up at Amberfur who was calling out patrols, " Mistleaf, Birdpaw, Glidestep, and Swiftbreeze on border patrol near Windclan." She immediately padded to the entrance of the camp. Her mouse now finished off by Eaglepaw.
Glidestep being leader of the patrol, "Birdpaw since this is your first patrol you can mark the first spot, but we should split up. Swiftbreeze and I will start from the bottom, and Birdpaw and Mistleaf work from the top down." Birdpaw excited nodded her understanding. *What if I mess up? What if I meet a Winclan cat? What if Mistleaf get angry with me?* "Relax. It isn't that bad. I won't get mad at you." Mistleaf meowed. Birdpaw nodded.

They finally arrived at the border, but Birdpaw scented an unfamiliar group of cats. Her tan ear twitched in annoyance, *Who thinks they are so smart to cross into our territory?* Mistleaf seemed to notice it to because her fur began to rise, "Birdpaw, stay near me Winclan has crossed the border just recently. They might still be here." Birdpaw trotted towards her when a twig snapped. Birdpaw whirled around to be face to face with a huge, gray tom. His amber eyes were slits of hatred, "Oh, look what we have here. An apprentice! Your a mighty young one, too! Hey Mudwing, Gorsepaw, Rabbitfur, and Flametail, come here!" As he said that a young female cat with messy brown fur came out. Birdpaw assumed this was Mudwing. Then, a small cat close to Birdpaws age came out. She knew this was Gorsepaw. Next, a large tom with white fur and blue eyes came out. He was twice a tall as Birdpaw. Finally, a

young lithe she-cat came out her bright ginger fur clean and smooth. *She is too pretty to be fighting!* Birdpaw thought. The gray tom finally broke the silence, "What are *you* doing?" Mistleaf replied with pure hostility, "Might I be asking the same? You are on *our* territory, last time I checked, *Grayfang!"* Grayfang launched at her his claws unsheathed. Birdpaw launched herself at the apprentice, who seemed to have expected that and sidestepped. Angry, Birdpaw leaped onto his back. He bucked slinging her off. She anticipated the move and slipped under him clawing at his belly. Gorsepaw yelped and sliced through her muzzle. She burst upwards with energy, sending Gorsepaw flying through the air, and when he landed Flametail padded over to him. She glared at Birdpaw and dived toward her with amazing speed, and Birdpaw sidestepped it however, Flametail threw her paw out and cut through Birdpaw's beautiful fur. Birdpaw even more angry, ran at Flametail and at the last second, rolled knocking Flametail of all four, "Windclan, retreat, Windclan!" Relieved Birdpaw stood up, her vision blurred with the blood from her muzzle. She glanced around the rest of the patrol had come in and helped out. Mistleaf glanced over at Birdpaw, "You fought well, even for a cat with no training." "Thank you, but I think we should get you back to camp you have a nasty bite on your shoulder, Mistleaf." Mistleaf nodded and the patrol headed back to camp. *I wonder what Lionstar will think of this?*

Chapter 6

Eaglepaw stood in the training hollow. The sandy walls were rough and jagged. It formed a little trail the top. "Eaglepaw I'll show you a simple move. What you do is charge at me, and *if* I sidestep you stick out your paw at an angle." Eaglepaw nodded he charged at Jaggedtooth and sure enough he sidestepped. Eaglepaw stuck out his right paw and caught Jaggedtooth's shoulder causing him to fall back, but also made Eaglepaw stumble, "Good! That was all great. I didn't expect you to get it your first time, but you did really well on the charge. The only problem is you stuck your paw out too far, and that caused you to stumble when you struck me. What you need to do is put a little more weight on your back paws so when you charge you don't trip forwards." Eaglepaw nodded shaking the little grains of sand from his dark, brown fur. Jaggedtooth was waiting for him to charge. Eaglepaw charged and struck Jaggedtooth on his shoulder and he didn't stumble, but he did slide. Jaggedtooth had him try and try again until he had gotten it down perfectly, "Would you like to stop? Or would you like me to show you the next move before we go to camp?" Eaglepaw was sore, but he did want to learn all he could do he mewed, "You can show me the move! We can work on it tommorow!" Jaggedtooth nodded, "What you do is after your opponent has sidestep and you stick out your paw, they kind of fall back a little bit. But take this as an opportunity to scratch down their back legs immobilizing them for a second. We won't work on this today, but I thought it would be good to show you. Then, we can piece the two together. Now off to camp." Eaglepaw stood up and noticed how sore he was. *Is this how sore I'm going to be everyday? At least I can head to camp now.* Eaglepaw stood up and trotted to camp taking note of every scent in the forest on his way. When he arrived at camp he spotted his sister near the fresh kill pile munching on a rabbit, "Would you like the rest." She said pointing her fuzzy tail at the other half of the rabbit, "Sure. Why are you all beaten up?" She shrugged, "We had a fight with Windclan at the border today. In fact, right after we had eaten we were going to tell Lionstar! He was busy until sunhigh, so we promised him we would talk to him then." Eaglepaw groaned. It

was only sunhigh. He forgot about hunting training. Everyday after they ate at sunhigh, they agreed they would practice hunting. Mistleaf came padding over, "Do you mind if Birdpaw and I join you and Jaggedtooth for hunting practice?" Eaglepaw purred his eyes brightening up, "No, not at all! I would love to practice with you! Are we leaving now?" Mistleaf nodded, "Yes we are, we just told Lionstar about our skirmish at the border. He will discuss it tomorrow with the clan, but until then he doesn't want any apprentices near the border." Eaglepaw nodded and stood up a joined his mentor and sister by the entrance, Mistleaf right behind him, "Eaglepaw were going on our first hunting patrol how exciting!" Eaglepaw purred, "I hope I get a big fat juicy squirrel!" They padded out leaving the camp behind.

Chapter 7

"Wake up. Wake up. Wake up. We are going to miss the other apprentices warrior ceremony!" Birdpaw groaned she looked up expecting to see her brother, but it was her new friend Leafpaw. He had talked to her one day they trained together.
She yawned and padded out of the den the sun so bright made her black striped dark. Leafpaw glanced over as she stretched, "Are you coming, mouse-brain?" She nodded and padded over and say next to him and her brother. Lionstar's deep voices echoed, "Let all cats old enough gather here beneath me for a clan meeting!" Cats with all different pelt colors gathered in the center, "We are gathered here today for Dapplepaw, Harepaw, Runningpaw, and Dewpaw. I have watched them grow and I believe they will make fine warriors. Dapplepaw stand by me please..... I believe my apprentice is ready to become a warrior! Do you Dapplepaw promise to uphold the warrior code and defend your clan even at the cost of your life?" She looked as though she would burst with pride, "I certainly will." Lionstar nodded, "Then by the power Starclan has invested in me you will be now known as Dapplewind. Now, for Harepaw. Come here please..... Dustwing do you believe he is ready to become a warrior?" Dustwing looked around, "Of course." Lionstar nodded, "Harepaw from this moment on you will be known as Hareclaw!" Everyone cheered, but Lionstar silenced them, " I am not through. Runningpaw come stand by me please..... Patchpelt do you believe he is ready to become a warrior?" Patchpelt purred, "Yes, he seems quite devoted!" "Then from this moment on he will be known as Runningbreeze. Last but not least, Dewpaw come up here..... Honeyfur, do you believe Dewpaw is ready to become a warrior?" The small golden she-cat piped up, "I do." Lionstar glanced over the crowd, "Then from this moment on Dewpaw will be Dewfeather. We welcome you all as full members of Thunderclan! Clan dissmissed!" The crowd cheered Dapplewind! Hareclaw! Runningbreeze! Dewfeather!

Leafpaw looked over at Birdpaw who was in a hunting crouch. She was stalking the small brown body of a shrew. Birdpaw locked eyes with him *What does he want?* He looked away and nodded towards

the Shadowclan border. *WHAT DOES HE WANT?!* Finally, she scented Shadowclan. She stood up from her crouch and padded over to the source of he putrid smell. She looked down Shadowclan had crossed the border! She even had proof there were feather on the ground with Shadowclan's scent! Birdpaw then heard a hiss, "Shu' up yoor gonna give us an dis' hidin' spot away! Ya flea-ridden pest!" She and Leafpaw padded over to the bush. There lay a small black she-cat with a bundle of kittens at her stomach, "Please don' hurt me. The father of me kittens lef' us. He din'd return! Please. Oh. Please help us!" Leafpaw shrugged and Birdpaw spoke for the both of them, "We will take you to our leader." She looked up gratitude express in the depths of her blue eyes, "Oh, I thank tha' botha' ya! I don' know what I'd do! My name is Midnight by da' way!" Birdpaw nodded and padded back to camp each cat holding a kitten.

Chapter 8

Birdpaw was padding back to camp with a wriggling ball of fur in her mouth. When they arrived at camp everyone turned towards them. Lionstar padded out of his den to see what all the commotion was. His golden fur rippled as his muscles show under his pelt. He walked camly across camp causing every one to hush, "Who is this?" The black she cat responded, "Ima' Midnight! The father my kits said he'd be back. Ha, tha' was a bol' face lie!" Lionstar nodded his understanding, "Well Midnight, we are Thunderclan and you are welcome to stay as long as you want! You can stay in the Nursery with our other queen, Seedleaf!" Midnight looked horrified, "Are you dem' Clan cats that eat kittens if thar' not strong enough?! Y'all sharpen yar' claws on badger bones!" Lionstar looked very amused at that, "Yes, we are Clan cats! But we would *never ever* kill a young kitten! We do *not* sharpen our claws on badger bones! I can assure you, you and your kits are safe! If any harm comes to them, as Starclan as my witness, I will deal with it personally!" The she-cat didn't look completely convinced but she didn't question him. She looked over at Birdpaw who was bringing a thrush from the fresh kill pile, "Where is da' Nursery?" Birdpaw pointed with her tail to the other side of camp, "Over there, but eat something before you go. Also, if you don't mind, who was their father?" Midnight shook her head, "He say' his name was Grayfang. He soun' like you clan cats!" Birdpaw knew exactly who he was she narrowed her eyes in suspicion. *What would he want with her?* She asked another question, "How old are you? You don't seem to old?" She have her black, fuzzy chest a few embarrassed licks, "Ima' six turns of da' moon." Birdpaw gasped in shock. *This poor cat is younger than me by two whole moons! She is only six moons! This has to be stopped!* Birdpaw looked back at her in utter shock and curiosity, "Your very young for kits. Even by our standards this has to be dealt with! What are your kits names?" Midnight look happy for once, "This lil' black tom righ' here is Crow, and the lil' gray she-kit right here is Cloud, and this lil' gray tom righ' here is Graykit. I named him after Grayfang. He said it was y'all customs to add kit to da' end of da' name!" Birdkit purred, "It is. They're so cute. Midnight, would you like to

become one of us?" The though obviously had startled her, "I don' know what if dis' is-" She was cut off as Dovewhisker padded over holding bright, sharp smelling leaves in her jaws, "Hello Midnight, I have brought you some Borage. This is a herb that help with your milk. Since your so young I suggest you eat these." Leafpaw who had been napping, woke up only a few seconds before and seemed embarrassed to be sitting here so he said to Birdpaw, "I'm going to leave. I'll leave y'all three to talk about she-cat stuff." Birdpaw very amused by this called after him, "What's the matter are we making you *uncomfortable*?" He shrugged and ran, his white tipped tail bobbing away. Birdpaw looked up at the sky. It was showing Silverpelt. *I probably should head to bed*!" And with that she padded off.

Chapter 9

Eaglepaw woke up and glanced over at Hollypaw, "Hey silly, wake up we are on dawn patrol!" Hollypaw mumbled grumpily, "Ugh, I hate dawn patrol." She stood up and flexed each muscle and began to groom her white fur. Eaglepaw sighed, "You take forever to groom yourself. Even when we first trained together you took almost the whole day to groom." Hollypaw's emerald eyes blazed in amusement, "Well, at least I didn't trip over my own paws!" Hollypaw fell over in laughter. Eaglepaw took this opportunity to pounce on her. She meowed and batted his ear. He growled playfully and got up giving his fluffy chest a few licks. Someone called out behind them, "Love is in the air!" Eaglepaw whipped around to see who made the comment. It was his father Patchpelt. The large calico tom smirked, "That's the same way I was with Sparrowfur!" Eaglepaw sighed, "We are not like that we're just friends!" Patchpelt shrugged, but didn't question him. Hollypaw giggled, "Love *is in* the air, Eaglepaw. You are just too blind to see it." Eaglepaw's big green eyes gazed into hers with curiosity, "What do you mean?!" Hollypaw nodded towards Birdpaw and Leafpaw.

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Birdpaw was sharing tongues with Leafpaw. Eaglepaw was staring at her making her very uncomfortable. She finally said, "Excuse me Leafpaw, I think Eaglepaw needs me." Leafpaw nodded his understanding. Birdpaw padded over to Eaglepaw, "What go you need?" He looked over at Leafpaw the tan tom was grooming his fur making it sleek and shiny, "Oh, nothing really. I just wanted to see if you'd like to hunt?" Birdpaw glanced over at Leafpaw, "Can he come as well? I promised I would hunt with him." Eaglepaw growled, "Yeah, sure. Whatever. I'm bringing Hollypaw!" Birdpaw purred and chuckled, "You two seem *very* close." Eaglepaw flicked his long, brown tail in annoyance *Why does everyone assume that? We are just good friends! No one says anything about Birdpaw and Leafpaw!* "You and Leafpaw seem *very* close." He retorted back at his sister. She seem unaffected, "Yeah, I guess I do have feelings for

him! Anyways, Hollypaw isn't that pretty. Who would want her anyways?" This comment made Eaglepaw furious, "She is not! She is the prettiest she-cat I have ever seen! In fact, I *would* take her! She is as beautiful as her personality! She is kind, sweet, and understanding! She has better qualities than you will ever have!" Birdpaw's brown face gave way to a smirk, and her blue-green eyes shown amusement, "I know! But I just got you to confess your feelings about her." She flicked her tail and stroked Eaglepaw's face with her slender tail. She padded away and pointed behind him. "You really feel that way about me?" Eaglepaw whirled around. *Oh no! Hollypaw! What do I say?!* "Um.... Well, er- yeah." Hollypaw's emerald eyes brightened. Her white fur fluffed up, "Eaglepaw, I feel the same!" Eaglepaw let out a sigh of relief. Hollypaw nuzzles her head under Eaglepaw's chin. *I'm glad I finally let my emotions out!*

Chapter 10

Birdpaw stretched her aching muscles, and looked over at her brother in the nest curled up next to her. His breath made a steady pattern lulling Birdpaw into a peaceful state. She shook her head *No! I must stay awake! I have to go check on Midnight, Crow, Cloud, and Graykit!* She padded slowly out of the den, the sun peeping over the trees. She went to he fresh kill pile and picked up a squirrel and a crow, and walked into the nursery. The three kits were playing around, "I'm the Thunderclan leader you can't defeat-" Cloud was cut off as Graykit yanked her down onto the ground, "I just defeated the Cloudstar! Bow down to me Cloud*paw* and Crow*paw*! I have changed your names to apprentices names, and you will never be warriors!" Crow seemed uninterested in the warrior stuff. He just sat there and watched his siblings tackle each other, "Mom, can I go see Dovewhisker? I want to watch her work with the herbs!" Birdpaw chuckled and set down the two pieces of prey, "Yeah, she loves kits!" Midnight whose eyes shown exhaustion nodded her gratitude, "Here, I got you a squirrel. Unless, you want the bird?" Midnight shook her head and bit into the gray body of the squirrel, "My kits act like this is there home. I guess it is. I feel so welcomed here and no one treats my kits wrongly. Ravenclaw is like a father to them, in fact, they believe he is! He told me 'If they ever ask who there father is, you can tell them it is me'! I would love a mate like that, but he already has one. He always hangs out with Honeyfur." Birdpaw laughed so hard she was on the ground, "That's not his mate. That's his sister!" Midnight gave her chest a few embarrassed licks, "In that case I have to go talk to Lionstar!" Birdpaws eyes glitters with curiosity, "Why?" "Well how else am I going to join this clan?"

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"Let all cats old enough gather here beneath the High Ledge for a clan meeting!" The cats of the clan unsure of what the meeting was for, padded out, "We are gathered her today for Midnight! She has decided to join the clan! She will join as an apprentice due to her

age, but she will care for her kits part of the day! Midnight stand by me please.....from this day forward until you earn your warrior name you will be known as Midnightpaw. Ravenclaw you are caring and brave and I believe you will pass down these traits to Midnightpaw! Now your kits..... Crow and Cloud stand up here..... From this moment forward until you earn your new names you will be known as Crowkit and Cloudkit. Since Graykit already has his name, you will continue to call him by his given name. Clan dismissed!" Everyone was cheering for Midnightpaw. Birdpaw padded up and said to her, "Welcome to Thunderclan!"

Chapter 11

Midnightpaw woke up, her were kits next to her stomach asleep. Her mentor, Ravenclaw, said that until sunhigh she could stay in camp with her kits, and after that she would train. They were old enough to eat prey now, so it didn't affect them too much. Midnightpaw yawned careful not to wake her kits. Yesterday they were bundles of energy, and there was no telling how they would be today after earning there new names.
"Mom. Can I go to the Medicine Cat Den? I promise I won't wake them up! I know your tired and need to rest." Midnightpaw sighed. Crowkit was secretly her favorite kit, "Sure. At sunhigh I'll be training; don't forget!" Crowkit nodded. He padded over and his black tail disappeared into the den. "Let all cats old enough to hunt gather here beneath me for a clan meeting!" *Fox-dung! Now my kits are going to stir!* Midnightpaw stepped out of the nursery. Here black fur sleek and shiny in the sunlight, "We are gathered here today for Bramblepelt! He has decided to retire to the elders den!" Midnightpaw looked at Crowkit. *He can be the medicine cat apprentice now!* "Bramblepelt we are glad you served our clan, and now it is our turn to serve to your needs! Clan dismissed!" Midnightpaw let out a sigh of relief *Crowkit can finally achieve his dream!* Midnightpaw yawned loud and clear. She decided she should get a nap before training. She closed her eyes and darkness took her to her dreams.

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"Midnightpaw, wake up. It's time for your training! We're going to take you to explore the territory!" Midnightpaw stretched and looked up to see Birdpaw's exotic eyes. "Okay, let me tell the kits goodbye." Midnightpaw trotted over to her kits who were playing with Seedleaf's tail, "I'll be back." The kits nodded and went back to Seedleaf's tail. She was flicking out in front of the kits paws. Midnightpaw sighed and headed for the entrance there Ravenclaw met them, "Hello, *Midnightpaw!*" Midnightpaw loved the way he said her name. It sounded like honey, sweet and smooth. She purred,

"Hello. I believe you and Birdpaw are taking me to explore the territory?" Ravenclaw nodded and pointed with his black, snake-like tail. They headed out and showed Midnightpaw every bit of territory, but when they reached the Windclan border there was trouble.

"Hey, what are *you* doing here? You little piece of crow food. I left you in the barn for a reason! *Midnight*!" Midnightpaw hated the way that cat said her named. He made it sound tainted like blood, "How do you know my name?" The rest of the patrol bristled in fear, and then the cat jumped out. It was Grayfang. "*You-you-you.....you traitor!"* Midnightpaw growled, "I thought I left you in the barn with my kits!" Grayfang spat out visouly. Midnight eyes narrowed to slits of hatred. Her hatred was so deep that she looked as though she would attack any cat, "*Your* kits, *your* kits. *You* didn't go through the pain I suffered! *You* weren't there for me when I needed you most! *My* kits don't even know their real father, and quite frankly I am *glad!* You don't just become mates with a cat and leave them in a barn, alone! You become mates because you truly care, and that was the mistake I made!" Grayfang spoke this time, "I truly did care for you Midnight, but I had never wanted kits. The clan couldn't know about this so I had to leave. I told you I would be back!" Grayfang eyes were wide and full of emotion, "Oh, I'm Midnight*paw.* And my kits are Crow*kit,* Cloud*kit,* and Gray*kit."* Grayfang's eyes grew in astonishment, "Your only six moons? I thought you were older!" Midnightpaw mewed, "Sorry." And stormed away Birdpaw and Ravenclaw right behind her.

Chapter 12

Birdpaw woke up and groomed her brown fur. It was a little past dawn and the pink in the sky was fading away, "Leafpaw wake up. You don't want to miss your warrior ceremony!" Leafpaw jerked awake. He groomed his fur ever so quickly, "Leafpaw! You didn't get behind your neck!" He grunted and tried to pad off, "No you don't! I'm gonna groom it for you." She said as she began to lick the tan tufts of fur down, "There you go. Now you better go eat." Leafpaw purred his thanks and trotted away. Birdpaw turned to the brown body of his brother, "Wake up! Flamepaw, Larkpaw, Hollypaw, and Leafpaw have there ceremony today!" Eaglepaw shot up at the sound of Hollypaw's name. Birdpaw purred in amusement, *of course he would wake up for Hollypaw!* Birdpaw trotted out of the den, "Let all cats old enough to hunt gather here for a clan meeting." Birdpaw sat by her brother. She was super excited for Leafpaw, "We are gathered here today for Leafpaw, Hollypaw, Larkpaw, and Flamepaw! Leafpaw come up here please." He padded up to the rock, his muscles rippling under his smooth pelt, "Swiftbreeze and I have agreed that you are ready to become a warrior! Now, do you Leafpaw promise to uphold the warrior code, and defend your clan even at the cost of your life?"
"I do!"
"Then by the power Starclan has invested in me, you shall be known as Leaftail! Hollypaw come up here please" Eaglepaw straightened as he heard her name, "Do you promise to uphold the warrior code and defend your clan even at the cost of your life?"
"I certainly do!"
"Then by the power Starclan has invested in me you shall be known as Hollypool! Larkpaw come up here please..... Do you promise to uphold the warrior code and defend your clan even at the cost of your life?"
"I do!"
"Then by the power Starclan has invested in me, you shall be now known as Larkwing! Flamepaw come up here please." He gave a smug look to Birdpaw and Eaglepaw, "Do you promise to uphold the warrior code, and defend your clan even at the cost of your

life?"
"I do"
"Then by the power Starclan has invested in me you shall be known as Flamepelt! We welcome you all as full members of Thunderclan! Clan dismissed!" The clan cheered, "Leaftail, Hollypool, Larkwing, Flamepelt!" Birdpaw joined in on the chorus, and padded over to Leaftail, "You better rest up; you have to do your vigil tonight!" Leaftail purred, "I will, but first I would like to ask you something. When you become a warrior, will you be my mate?" He finished, his Amber eyes glowing full of love. Birdpaw licked his cheek and purred, "Why, of course!" Leaftail satisfied with the answer left to the warriors den to get some sleep.

Chapter 13

"During your warrior assessment we will be watching both of you! You won't know about us though. Remember all the skills we have taught you, and catch as much prey as you can! Good luck!"
Birdpaw looked up. Eaglepaw and her very own mentor disappeared in the bushes. She couldn't even scent them. She glanced at her brother who was stalking a small thrush. He pounced killing the bird with a swift bite to the neck. Birdpaw twitched her brown ears towards the sound of a mouse. Instantly, she got into a crouch, swaying on her limber legs. She spotted the small animal nibbling on a little leaf of some sort. She stalked silently, slither like a snake. Then she leapt! The small, gray body limp in her jaws. She buried hoping to add more to the stock.
She trotted back to her buried mouse with a shrew, squirrel, and two sparrows. They were small animals, but a great catch altogether. She padded towards Eaglepaw his cat was smaller, but contained larger animals. He had a huge rabbit and his thrush from earlier, "Hey Birdpaw! How do you think it went?" She shrugged, "I believe it went well. And you?" He nodded his head. He couldn't respond his mouth was full of prey.
They trotted into camp and set there prey on the huge heap in the middle of camp. Eaglepaw pointed towards their mentors. Mistleaf had a very glum look and so did Jaggedtooth, "How did we do?" Birdpaw asked nervously, "You could've been better! I guess we have to postpone your warrior ceremony for about another two moons, so you guys can learn to hunt!" Jaggedtooth ended with a hiss. Birdpaw panicked and nearly fainted. She had thought she did really well, "Birdpaw don't look so frightened you did well! We were only joking around with you!" Mistleaf chuckled, amusement in her beautiful, amber eyes. Birdpaw sighed in relief. She hadn't failed!

Chapter 14

"Let all cats old enough to hunt, gather beneath High Ledge for a Clan meeting!" Every cat padded out knowing what was taking place, "We are gathered here today for Eaglepaw and Birdpaw! Birdpaw you have proven to be loyal and just! Do you promise to uphold the warrior code, and defend your clan even, at the cost of your life?"
"I do!"
"Then by the power Starclan has invested in me you shall now be known as Birdwing! We welcome you as a full member of Thunderclan!"
Cats around her chanted her name. Birdwing! Birdwing! She looked up at High Ledge to see Lionstar shush the clan with a wave of his tail, "Eaglepaw you are brave and smart. Do you promise to uphold the warrior code, and defend your clan even, at the cost of your life?"
"I do!"
"Then by the power Starclan has invested in me, you shall now be known as Eagleheart! We welcome you as a full member of Thunderclan! Clan dismissed!" Cats were chanting and cheering, but only one cat walked up to her. "Now about us being mates. I believe I heard a yes!" Leaftail purred. Birdwing nodded and licked his cheek, for now they were warriors and could do that! Leaftail wrapped his tail around her flank, "You better rest. Don't forget about you vigil!" Birdwing sighed, "Why do you always have to ruin the moment, mouse-brain!" He just chuckled and brought her a shrew. She ate it up quickly ripping it's brown fur to shreds.

Afterwards, she snuggled up in her new nest and drifted into a heavy sleep.

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She woke up in her very own camp, but it was deserted. No one. Not even a bug was there. "Look at me." Said a voice. It was a she-cat. She looked around, and on High Ledge was a beautiful ginger she-cat.

She had ginger fur like a fire, and one white paw. "I am Squirrelflight. I

was from your clan long ago. Lionstar remembers me, but that's besides the point-" she was cut off because Birdwing asked a question, "Am I in a dream? Your from Starclan, aren't you?" Squirrelflight looked irritated, "Yes and yes. Now listen!" Squirrelflight's eyes were becoming pools of red and suddenly it seemed like Birdwing was sucked in, "Tooth will meet Claw, and there will be Blood." Birdwing saw the silhouette of two cats fighting to the death. Blood was surrounding. Engulfing her! She was sinking in a puddle of it! It filled her throat as she went under, and then clogged her nose! She couldn't breath!

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"Wake up! Birdwing! We have to do our vigil!" Birdwing groaned and got up. She padded out of the den, thinking about the omen she had just heard.

The End

[image]

The second book IS out! here is info on it! The title is below.

Warriors: A Shadow from the Past

Second book summary:

Birdwing has just received a prophecy that might mean death for her or all the clans. She struggles to find the meaning, and runs into problems from someone's past. What does this prophecy mean? Will her clan survive? Can she save them?

The End